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Social Science Research Council

CENTER FOR COORDINATION OF RESEARCH ON SOCIAL INDICATORS

1755 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036

Robert Parke
Director

(202) 667-8884

February 12, 1975

Professor Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
School of Medicine
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94306

Dear Professor Lederberg:

On behalf of the Social Science Research Council's Advisory and Planning Committee on Social Indicators I take pleasure in inviting you to serve as a member of the Subcommittee on Science Indicators.

As you know from prior discussions, the Subcommittee on Science Indicators will be responsible for considering what is meant by the health of science; for exploring various ways in which this might be quantified and measured; for assessing progress in the development of measures of the cognitive and social structure of science; for considering problems in measuring the productivity of science, and problems in the utilization of indicators in the establishment of science policy; and in other ways for contributing to the development of social indicators relating to the field of science. More particularly, the Subcommittee on Science Indicators will be requested to explore ways in which the report of the U.S. National Science Board, Science Indicators 1972, may be improved as a document which describes the state and progress of science in the United States; to consider what might be suitable contents for a model chapter on science for publications of broader scope such as Social Indicators, 1976; and, in the latter connection, to explore ways of measuring the various linkages between science and other aspects of society. Looking at the prospects for this Subcommittee, I think it is reasonable to hope that in time this group, and the research which it stimulates, may make a substantial contribution to the quantitative description and analysis of science as a social phenomenon, and to improving the empirical base for science policy.

It is clear from the discussions relating to the establishment of the Subcommittee that your participation as a member of the Subcommittee would make an invaluable contribution to its work. As a matter of policy, the Social Science Research Council does not offer compensation for the services of members of its research planning committees. However, the Council will reimburse the costs of travel and subsistence incurred in your participation in the Subcommittee. I hope very much to learn of your acceptance of this invitation.

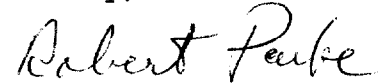
Prof. Lederberg

-2-

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I have just been informed by Harriet Zuckerman that it will be impossible for you to attend the organizing meeting of the Subcommittee, which will be held on February 24 in New York. I hope nonetheless that you will agree to serve on the Subcommittee and that we will see you at the following meeting. You will be consulted on the date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Parke".

Robert Parke

cc: Harriet Zuckerman
Otis Dudley Duncan
Eleanor Bernert Sheldon